

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Title of the Invention as follows:

BLASTING METHOD BY CONTROLLING OXYGEN SUPPLY

Please amend paragraphs [0003]-[0005] of the originally filed specification as follows:

[0003]

A method of decomposing an explosive completely by blasting it in a pretreatment phase has been known as a method of processing a ~~[[n]] containing explosive~~ chemical weapon containing an explosive (see Patent Document 1). The blasting method is used for processing chemical weapons that cause significant corrosion and damage and those having a complicated structure that are difficult to disassemble, and blasting is commonly performed while the chemical weapon is enclosed in a pressure vessel. Chemical weapons still containing a chemical agent are blasted by the method.

[0004]

A method of decomposing an explosive completely by blasting it after the chemical weapon is disassembled and the chemical agent is removed in a pretreatment phase is also known as a method of processing ~~containing explosive~~ chemical weapons containing explosives (see Patent Document 2). The blasting method is used for processing of a chemical weapon still retaining its original external shape, and the burster unit disassembled from the chemical weapon is blasted as it is enclosed in a pressure vessel. Although most of the chemical agent is removed in disassembling operation, the burster unit still having some solidified chemical agent adhered thereto by aging is blasted by the method.

[0005]

In the two blasting methods described above, blasting is said to be performed favorably in a tightly sealed pressure vessel under vacuum, ~~[[from]]~~ for the following reasons:

- (1) It is possible to prevent leakage of the chemical agent contained in the chemical weapon to outside, because it is possible to keep the pressure in the pressure vessel lower (negative) than atmospheric pressure before blasting as well as after blasting; and
- (2) It is possible to reduce adverse effects on environment including the noise and vibration by blasting drastically.

Patent Document 1: Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 7-208899

Patent Document 2: Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2002-39699

Please amend paragraph [0028] as follows:

[0028]

As shown in Figure 2, the chemical bomb (explosive device) 100 has a nose 110, a burster cylinder 111, bomb shell 120, and an attitude-controlling blade 130. The burster cylinder 111 contains a burster (explosive) 112. The nose 110 has a fuse 113 for bursting the burster 112 contained in the burster cylinder 111. The bomb shell 120 is connected to the nose 110 while containing the burster cylinder 111, and a liquid chemical agent 121 is filled therein. The attitude-controlling blade 130 is placed at the side opposite to the nose 110 of bomb shell 120, and controls the attitude of the chemical bomb 100 when dropped. A hoist ring 140 for connection of the chemical bomb 100 to be loaded onto an airplane is placed on the top of the bomb shell 120.

Please amend paragraph [0057] as follows:

[0057]

As shown in Table 1, 5 g of soot was generated out of 100 g of TNT when the TNT is blasted in a pressure vessel that was previously aspirated into a vacuum state at 48 mm Hg (6.4 KPa). In addition, the initial pressure in the pressure vessel was 48 mm Hg (6.4 KPa), while the pressure after blasting was 505 mm Hg (67.3 KPa).